

# EYES ARE TURNED ON NEUTRAL NATIONS ABROAD

## UNITED APPEAL MUCH DESIRED

United States Hopes to Become  
Clearing House for Views  
and Terms of Peace.

DIPLOMATS ARE WATCHING  
Peace is Pointed Out as More  
Essential to European Neu-  
trals Than This Country.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—With the  
purpose of President Wilson's note  
to belligerents clarified by official  
statements on the subject, the atten-  
tion of the United States has turned  
to the reception of the note in for-  
eign capitals.

Diplomats here are eagerly watch-  
ing for indications of whether the  
Europeans will follow the lead of the  
United States and make a similar ap-  
peal to the warring powers.

There is growing feeling that the  
United States hopes to become the  
clearing house for views and possibly  
for terms of the belligerents. Several  
of the diplomats have advised their  
governments that that effect in order  
to guide them in their replies.

The question very much to the fore  
today was whether the European neu-  
trals would present a united appeal.  
The Spanish and Swiss representa-  
tives here have been at the state de-  
partment repeatedly since those pro-  
posals came out and probably know  
full the plans of this government.

It is pointed out that the European  
neutrals have suffered beyond any  
other nations not actually involved in  
the war and that peace is more essen-  
tial to them than any but the actual  
belligerents. In addition they have  
no bitterness of war and none of its  
ambitions and are anxious more  
to the coming of peace than for the ac-  
complishment of any other purpose.  
Nevertheless their geographical posi-  
tion between the two contending  
forces has been so dangerous that up  
to now they have been able to do no  
more than maintain the struggle even  
without mixing in the struggle even  
to suggesting peace. Part of this  
danger is, however, thought removed  
by the American action.

Charge Grew reported to the state  
department Friday that the presi-  
dent's peace note had been received  
in Berlin.

Early London press comment that  
the note was painful because it was  
the objects of the belligerents were  
practically the same and not unex-  
pected here, where attention has al-  
ready been drawn to the fact that  
President Wilson specifically declared  
that the published views of the op-  
posing statesmen left that impression.

It is stated officially that the presi-  
dent would not presume to say for  
the two groups were fighting for the  
same object, but merely that their  
official spokesmen had outlined much  
the same general program without  
going into the actual details which he  
now seeks.

## BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL REMAIN SILENT

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
LONDON, Dec. 22.—The British  
government will make no reply to the  
American peace note, considering it  
a question that can be dealt with only  
in communication with other mem-  
bers of the Entente Allies. An-  
nouncement to this effect was made  
in the House of Commons Friday by  
Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the  
exchequer.

Mr. Law was asked whether a  
statement could be made regarding  
the American note. He replied:

"It must be obvious to the House  
that this is a question that can only  
be dealt with in communication with  
our allies and that it is absolutely  
impossible to make a statement  
now."

Referring to President Wilson's  
note, the Evening Standard says:

"Any communication from the  
United States to the belligerents is  
assured of courteous and respectful  
consideration, but it would be only  
misleading the president to leave him  
under the impression that any move  
on his part toward peace at this  
time of the war would be welcomed  
by Great Britain or its allies. It is  
singular indeed that statesmen of  
Mr. Wilson's perspicacity can labor  
under any such illusion. The whole  
facts of the situation should warn  
him that his intervention is not de-  
sired."

He speaks of a league to insure  
peace and order. Such a league al-  
ready exists. It consists of Great Brit-  
ain, France, Russia, Italy and the  
smaller powers. All have had an up-  
hill fight. They now see the road fairly  
clear before them. The enemy has  
given a shrill cry of distress. The  
next few months ought to complete his  
discomfiture.

"If the president could realize what  
these war-worn peoples feel he would  
surely not suggest that they should  
forego all their cherished hopes and  
trust their very existence once more  
to rotten parchment bonds."

TO HOLD SERVICES.  
The Rev. J. C. Carter, arch deacon  
of the diocese of the Protestant Epis-  
copal church of West Virginia, will  
hold services at 11 o'clock Sunday  
morning in Christ Episcopal church,  
corner West Main and Sixth streets.  
Every one is cordially invited to at-  
tend. There will be no evening ser-  
vice.

## TWO CHARGED WITH HOLD-UP IN GLEN ELK

Ziesing Man Says Watch, Ring  
and Money Were Taken  
from Him.

Charged with holding up and robbing  
Homer Hayes, of Ziesing, of a  
watch valued at \$15, a ring and \$1  
in cash, Rube Pritchard and Cecil  
Jones, young men of this city, are  
prisoners in the county jail awaiting  
trials before Magistrate R. Edward  
Kidd on warrants sworn out by  
Hayes.

Hayes has identified Pritchard as  
one of the men who held him up on  
Clark street, Glen Elk, Wednesday  
night. Pritchard says he had a fight  
with Hayes Wednesday night, but de-  
nies the robbery charge.

Pritchard was arrested Thursday  
by Officer Shope, and Jones was taken  
into custody Thursday night by Of-  
ficers Shaban and Yates.

Hayes told police that he met  
Pritchard and Jones in a West Pike  
street pool room, and that they sug-  
gested he walk with them to Glen  
Elk. When they reached a dark spot  
on Clark street, Hayes said the two  
men assaulted and robbed him.

## SNOWFALL In the State of Ohio is Report- ed as the Heaviest in Many Years.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 22.—Ohio  
towns and cities were busy Friday  
digging themselves out from under  
the heaviest snowfall in years. The  
storm seemed to be general, but  
heaviest in the central and northern  
portions of the state.

Traction service in many parts of  
the state was brought to a complete  
standstill. In some of the larger  
cities, including Columbus, street car  
traffic was almost suspended. Thou-  
sands of persons were forced to walk  
to work. Ten inches of snow fell in  
Canton. In Columbus the snowfall  
was five inches.

## EL ARISH Ninety Miles East of the Suez Canal is Captured by Brit- ish Troops.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
LONDON, Dec. 22.—El Arish, ninety  
miles east of the Suez canal, was cap-  
tured Thursday by the British.

El Arish is a fortified town of Egypt  
on the Mediterranean, near the fron-  
tier of Palestine. It is a town of less  
than 20,000 population, in territory  
which has been held by the Turks  
since the time of their invasion in  
Egypt and unsuccessful attack on the  
Suez canal.

## BALTIMORE CATTLE MARKET

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 22.—  
Calves—Market firm and smooth, fat  
veners are very heavy. Sold. W.  
quote: Calves, year, choice, per  
pound 12c@12½c; do, do, good,  
11c@11½c; do, do, light, ordinary,  
10c@11c; do rough and heavy, per  
head, \$8@18.

Lambs and sheep—Market very  
firm. Arrivals are scarce. W.  
quote: Sheep, No. 1, per pound 5c  
@6c; do, old bucks, do, 4c@5c; do,  
do, common to fair, per head, \$1.50  
@2.50; lambs, spring, choice, per  
pound 11½c@12½c; do, do, small  
and poor, do, 9½c@10c.

Beef Cattle—Quote: First quality,  
per pound, 7½c@8c; medium, do,  
6½c@7c; bulls, as to quality, do, 4c  
@6c; thin steers and cows, per  
head, \$15@25; oxen, as to quality,  
per head, \$20@30; milk cows, good,  
per head, \$30@50.

NOTE IS DELIVERED.  
PARIS, Dec. 22.—William Graves  
Sharp, the American ambassador to  
France, delivered personally to Pre-  
mier Briand between 7 and 8 o'clock  
Thursday night, Secretary of State  
Lansing's note to the belligerent na-  
tions. Paris newspapers print the  
note textually.

## FINED FOR LOITERING.

For loitering in the streets Minnie  
McDonald, said by police to be an old  
offender, was fined \$6.00 by Mayor  
C. H. Gordon in police court Friday  
morning. She was arrested in Glen  
Elk Thursday night by Detective L.  
L. White.

## LOOKING DOWN FROM FRENCH AIRPLANE ON SOYECOURT RUINS



This remarkable photo was taken from a French military airplane and shows the war-ravaged French vil-  
lage of Soyecourt which is in the possession of German troops. The explosion of a French bomb can be seen  
at the right. Trenches run criss-cross over the whole plain. Shell holes dot the ground everywhere. The vil-  
lage of Soyecourt shown in the upper half of the photo is a mass of ruins.

## SHRINE OFFICERS NAMED FOR TERM BY NEMESSIS MEN

Among Whom Are Several Ma-  
sons Who Reside in Har-  
rison County.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 22.—Officers  
for the ensuing term were elected at  
a largely attended meeting of the  
members of Nemesis Temple, Ancient  
and Amble Nobles of the Mystic  
Shrine, held at the Masonic temple on  
Julian street Thursday night, when  
David E. Thoenen, of Sistersville,  
who has been chief rabban, was ele-  
vated to the position of illustrious  
potentate, and Birk S. Stathers, of  
Weston, was elected to the position  
of chief rabban.

Other officers elected at the meet-  
ing were:

W. A. Carpenter, Salem, assistant  
rabban.  
T. R. Cowell, Parkersburg, high  
priest and prophet.

A. D. Follett, of Marietta, oriental  
guide.

James A. Wetherell, Parkersburg,  
treasurer.

James A. Bryan, Parkersburg, re-  
corder.

Bert Bradford, Pennsboro, first  
ceremonial master.

Charles H. Griffin, Clarksburg,  
second ceremonial master.

E. R. Patton, Parkersburg, mar-  
shal.

William Nusbaum, Clarksburg,  
captain of guard.

J. C. Phelps, Parkersburg, outer  
guard.

Biddle, Parkersburg, chief al-  
chemist.

Fred E. Delbridge, Clarksburg,  
first assistant alchemist.

John A. Grier, Sistersville, second  
assistant alchemist.

Representatives to the imperial  
council which is to be held at Min-  
neapolis next June, were named as  
follows:

A. M. T. Cunningham, Clarksburg;  
E. R. Patton and Walter L. Dank,  
Parkersburg.

## YARDS CONGESTED

With Carload after Carload of  
Christmas Freight in the  
City of Pittsburgh.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 22.—With car-  
load after carload of Christmas  
freight pouring into the railroad  
yards here, it has become apparent  
that Christmas morning will dawn  
with two yards congested with  
freight and many residents of Pitts-  
burg waiting for their presents. Bad  
weather along with car shortage has  
worked to bring about freight con-  
gestion. However, Pittsburgh will en-  
joy the most prosperous holiday sea-  
son in its history because of increases  
in salaries along with the granting of  
bonuses and extra dividends by many  
companies.

## GUARDIAN QUALIFIES.

Alice Bennett has qualified before  
the county court as guardian of Link  
Bennett with bond at \$100 and Harry  
W. Sheets surety.

## MISS CHORPENING CLAIMED BY DEATH

At Her Home at Bridgeport  
Following a Very Shot  
Illness.

MISS WILDA CHORPENING, aged 18,  
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Chor-  
pening, of Bridgeport, died at 12:20  
Friday morning after a short illness.  
Only intimate friends had learned of  
her illness and her death comes as a  
great shock to the entire community.

Miss Chorpening was one of the  
most dearly loved young ladies of the  
town. Always congenial and consid-  
erate of others she was a social favor-  
ite. Three years ago she was con-  
verted and united with the Bridge-  
port Baptist church, and all knew of  
her consecrated Christian character.  
Being a leader among the young peo-  
ple of her church she wielded a great  
influence for the betterment of hu-  
manity.

In school she was a favorite of  
teacher and school mates and always  
ranked first in class standing. She  
was a member of the senior class  
and would have graduated with high  
honors, and had planned to enter col-  
lege next year.

Few young lives have been so use-  
ful and few have striven for ideals  
so high and accomplished so much in  
a few years.

Surviving the deceased girl are the  
father and mother; a grandfather,  
Mr. Shields, who lives at the Chor-  
pening home, and the following sis-  
ters and brothers living at home:  
Misses Ada, Rose, and Virginia Chor-  
pening, and Charles Chorpening.

The funeral will be held in Bridge-  
port Baptist church Sunday morning.

## SIDEWIPED

Is Freight Train and Engine  
of Pittsburgh Flyer Is  
Turned Over.

The locomotive of the Pittsburgh  
Flyer, that left here Thursday night  
at 10:10 o'clock sidwiped a freight  
train as it was pulling into Connells-  
ville, Pa., early Friday morning and  
was overturned, but trainmen escaped  
without injury. Passengers were  
jammed somewhat but not hurt. They  
were transferred so as to make con-  
nections for their destinations.

On account of this wreck, the Pitts-  
burg train due here at 8:30 Friday  
morning was delayed more than  
three hours.

Owing to bad weather, virtually  
every passenger train on the Baltimore  
and Ohio railroad is running behind  
time. No. 2 (eastbound, due here at  
3:45 a. m., did not arrive until 8 a.  
m. A large number of suit cases  
were observed to be taken from the  
train. No. 3 due at 10 a. m., was one  
hour and a half late.

## BELL DISQUALIFIED.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
PARKERSBURG, Dec. 22.—The  
Parkersburg high school, which  
claimed equal honors for the state  
football championship has relinquish-  
ed its claim for the state. H. E.  
O'Leary, principal of the school has  
offered the state association to dis-  
continue its claim to this year, stating  
that Left End Bell was ineligible to  
play because of scholarship de-  
ficiency.

## LIFE INSURANCE IS PRESENTED AS GIFT.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
FAIRMONT, Dec. 22.—The  
Monongah Glass Company, one  
of the largest manufacturers of  
blown glass, tumbled in the  
world, Friday presented to each  
of its employees a life insurance  
policy as a Christmas gift. The  
insurance aggregates over one  
half million dollars, and each  
employee will be protected by  
a policy to the amount of one  
year salary, within a maxi-  
mum of \$25,000 payable to the  
beneficiary upon the death of  
the holder. The Monongah com-  
pany manufactures all the con-  
tainers used by the Beech Nut  
Packing Company.

## PICKENS WILL

Disposes of an Estate Consist-  
ing of Valuable Lands  
and Lots.

The will of the late John D. Pick-  
ens, of Quiet Dell, has been probated.  
His entire estate is left to his widow  
her life time, after which it is to go  
to his three children. Carlyle D., a  
son, is to have a house and lot on  
Buckhannon avenue in Broad Oaks,  
and Mary A. Cost, a daughter, a  
house and lot on Marshall street in  
Broad Oaks. The home farm at  
Quiet Dell is to go to Carlyle and Mrs.  
Cost equally, while James Pickens,  
a son, is to have the Ruckman farm  
in Barbours county and four lots in  
Brooklyn, N. Y. He is also to have  
the home place, Chatfield, and a  
head of cattle. The residue of the  
estate is to be divided equally among  
the three children. The two sons are  
named as executors of the will.

## PETITION DENIED

Gas Company Will Not Be Pre-  
vented from Installing a  
Vacuum System.

The petition of A. D. Bassell, of  
Lost Creek, asking that the West  
Virginia Central Gas Company be  
prohibited from installing a vacuum  
system in the Lost Creek gas field,  
has been denied by Judge Raymond  
Maxwell of the circuit court. The  
plaintiff declared that it would de-  
prive farmers of an ample gas supply  
to which they are entitled under  
lease provisions. The company pre-  
sented affidavits showing that the new  
system is necessary to supply towns  
the company is serving under state  
regulations.

## TICKET NAMED.

The Citizens Progressive party of  
Stealey Heights Thursday night nomi-  
nated Charles T. Stealey for mayor,  
J. Worthy Ward for recorder and  
Dorsey Hudkins, B. H. Potts, Dr.  
Luther Hammond, Hiram Snider and  
W. E. Stuart, for councilmen.

## FIVE LIVES ARE LOST IN A FIRE

## MITCHELL IS NAMED AGAIN TO HEAD TICKET

Of the People's Progressive  
Party in Town of Stealey  
Heights Election.

The People's Progressive party of  
Stealey Heights Thursday night held  
its annual convention to nominate a  
mayor, recorder and five councilmen  
in the council chambers. L. W.  
Slaughter was temporary chairman  
and E. D. Stanley temporary sec-  
retary. The temporary organization  
was made permanent and the con-  
vention proceeded to business. A  
committee of three was appointed to  
draft a platform. Upon report from  
the committee the following platform  
was read and unanimously adopted:

"We, the representatives of the  
People's Progressive party of the  
town of Stealey Heights, in conven-  
tion assembled, adopt, pledge and  
conform our loyalty to the People's  
Progressive party ticket.

"We believe in a fair, honest, im-  
partial and progressive adminis-  
tration, one that will up-build and be a  
booster to our town, and that will  
secure the proper protection of  
health, happiness and the general  
welfare of the citizens.

"We believe in the strict curtail-  
ment of all unnecessary expense and  
wastefulness of the revenues of the  
town, and that all revenues or tax  
should be devoted and expended to  
the best interest of all the citizens,  
and that no special privileges or fa-  
vors should be granted.

"We believe the citizens and cor-  
porations of wealth should be com-  
pelled to pay upon their property a  
reasonable and just tax, as, in pro-  
portion to the citizen or business  
firm of small means, and if possible  
to reduce the burden of taxation on  
the laboring family who is trying to  
pay for a home. Permit the poor to  
live and the rich will live.

"We believe a town sergeant should  
be paid a just and reasonable com-  
pensation for the services rendered  
and the obligations taken, that he  
should be a business and impartial  
officer, that he should be courteous,  
polite, kind and possess high ideals  
for care and protection of citizens;  
that a fair, just and reasonable en-  
forcement of the town ordinances  
without fear or favor, and that citi-  
zens from neighboring towns should  
be treated with just respect and that  
no unreasonable burdens or arrests  
should be placed upon them, probib-  
iting such citizens to have the free  
and unobstructed right to pass to  
and fro, peaceably over our streets.

"We believe in ample fire pro-  
tection for the preservation of property  
and the protection of life at a fair  
and reasonable rate.

"We believe the West End Water  
Company should rush with all possi-  
ble speed the filtration plant now un-  
der construction, and do insist upon  
the West End Water Company's  
speedy completion of the filtration  
plant without unnecessary delay.

"We believe and greatly implore  
the good citizens of Stealey Heights  
to stay together and lend a helping  
hand to the people's Progressive party  
in order that they may complete and  
further extend the much needed im-  
provements that is now in progress in  
our beloved village.

"We believe at this time that Stealey  
Heights should secure a city charter  
and establish a commission form  
of government, and that we, as citi-  
zens of the People's Progressive  
party, protest against the annexation  
of our village with another city,  
town or village, unless it be by the  
willing consent of a majority of the  
legal voters of the citizens of Stealey  
Heights.

"We believe that a big, hustling,  
progressive administration should  
prevail, and that all the good citizens  
of the town of Stealey Heights join  
the People's Progressive party in this  
great effort."

The next in order was nomi-  
nations and through great applause and  
enthusiasm voices rang through the  
hall for Mitchell. "We want Mit-  
chell." And D. L. Mitchell was nomi-  
nated for mayor by acclamation. By  
willing consent of a majority of the  
legal voters of the citizens of Stealey  
Heights.

After the nominations there were  
several very interesting talks made  
by some of those present. Mayor D.  
L. Mitchell spoke in behalf of the  
rapid progress and the great improve-  
ments Stealey Heights is making and  
declared Stealey Heights would soon  
be a noted resident city, rating as  
one among the best on the map.

## GERMANY IS READY.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
LONDON, Dec. 22.—An Exchange  
Telegraph despatch from The Hague  
says that in an announced semi-official  
statement the Allies have replied to  
the peace proposals of the Central  
powers, leave the door open for ne-  
gotiations. Germany will make known  
immediately its chief peace terms.

Kansas Masonic Home in West-  
ern Part of the City of  
Wichita, Kan.

PROPERTY LOSS IS HEAVY  
Records of Home Destroyed  
and There is No Way to  
Check Loss of Life.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 22.—Five  
persons are believed to have lost their  
lives and several are suffering from  
injuries received in a fire which early  
Friday destroyed the Kansas Masonic  
home in the western part of the city.  
Ninety-two persons were in the  
building when the fire broke out and  
firemen directed their efforts to res-  
cuing them.

The fire which originated in the  
furnace room got beyond control be-  
fore water could be turned on it, due  
to frozen water mains, the tempera-  
ture being eight above zero.

The records of the home were de-  
stroyed and the superintendent stated  
he had no way of checking the  
loss of survivors with the register  
of inmates. Ten of the inmates were  
taken to a hospital, suffering from  
exposure, burns and the effects of in-  
haling smoke.

Colonel T. C. Fitch, member of the  
Kansas Masonic home board of trust-  
ees, said he did not believe there  
were any bodies in the ruins.

"We are positive all the children  
were taken out," said Mr. Fitch, "and  
we now believe there was no loss of  
life among the aged inmates, but  
this we cannot be certain until we  
check up."

The property was completely de-  
stroyed with the exception of the  
chapel and hospital, both small build-  
ings located near the main building.  
The loss is \$250,000.

## RABBITS

By the Million Are Killed in the  
State of Pennsylvania  
This Season.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
PITTSBURGH, Dec. 22.—Four million  
rabbits or about 600,000 pounds  
were killed by hunters in Pennsylv-  
ania this year, according to an esti-  
mate made by John M. Phillips, of  
the state game commission. Rab-  
bits were more plentiful in this state  
this year than ever before, he said.  
Mr. Phillips estimated that about  
1,000 wild turkeys, 2,000 deer and 250  
black bear were also killed. He de-  
clared that more black bear were  
killed in Pennsylvania than any three  
western states. Three hundred  
thousand hunters' license were is-  
sued. The commissioner said that  
a live quail weighs about five  
and six ounces now sells for \$3. After  
being dressed the bird weighs only  
about two ounces, he said.

## PROROGUED

Is the British Parliament with-  
out Further Information  
about Action of Note.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)  
LONDON, Dec. 22.—Parliament was  
prorogued Friday afternoon without  
the members being given any further  
information regarding President Wil-  
son's note or what action the govern-  
ment contemplated with respect to it.  
Neither the note nor the German  
peace proposals was mentioned in the  
king's speech read in both houses.

The speech from the throne was one  
of the briefest on record. It expressed  
confidence in the ultimate victory of  
the Allies and determination to pro-  
secute the war "until we have vind-  
icated the rights so ruthlessly violated  
by our enemies, and established the  
security of Europe on a sure founda-  
tion."

## BONUS CHECKS

Are Distributed among Local  
Employees of the Owens Bot-  
tle Machine Company.

The employees of the Owens Bottle  
Machine Company's local plant re-  
ceived their Christmas gift checks  
Friday, a total of \$15,000 being so-  
distributed among the employees. The  
company has been paying a bonus of  
monthly pay aggregating about \$10,000.  
Employees who had been with the  
company for a year or more received  
bonuses of ten per cent of their yearly  
salaries, while those employed by the  
company longer than six months and  
less than a year received bonuses of  
half that amount.

## ADVENTISTS' MEETING.

The Seventh Day Adventists will  
hold services in the Masonic temple  
Saturday, Sabbath school will be  
held at 10 a. m. and regular services  
at 11 a. m. The subject will be the  
"Second Coming of Christ."

## BUSIEST PLACE

Perhaps the busiest place of all in  
the city during the Christmas season  
is the postoffice, and this year the  
amount of business that is being han-  
dled there surpasses that of any pre-  
vious year.